

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for initiating an online meeting over a data network
2 between a host party with a first computer and an attendee party with a second computer,
3 where a phone connection exists over a telephone network between a first phone of the
4 host party and a second phone of the attendee party, the method comprising:

5 receiving a start meeting command at a first adaptor coupled in between a phone
6 base and a phone handset of to the first phone, the first adaptor also coupled to and the
7 first computer;

8 in response to the first adaptor receiving the start meeting command, causing, by
9 the first adaptor, the first computer to send a start meeting message over the data network
10 to a data center;

11 receiving a meeting identification from the data center;

12 storing the meeting identification in the first adaptor; and

13 transmitting the meeting identification from the first adaptor over the telephone
14 network to a second adaptor, which is coupled to both the second phone and the second
15 computer.

1 2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, comprising:

2 receiving the meeting identification into the second adaptor; and

3 using the second adaptor to send a join meeting message over the data network to
4 the data center.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the telephone network comprises a public
2 switched telephone network.

1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data network comprises an internet.

1 5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

2 encoding the meeting identification by the first adaptor prior to transmitting the
3 meeting identification over the telephone network to the second adaptor.

1 6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the second adaptor receives the
2 meeting identification by monitoring the phone connection to detect the encoded meeting
3 identification.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said encoding converts the meeting
2 identification into a dual tone multiple frequency (DTMF) signal.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 initiating an audio recording of the meeting by user input on one of said adaptors.

1 9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 recording audio of the meeting from the phone connection through one of said
3 adaptors to the computer coupled thereto.

1 10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 recording audio of the meeting from the phone connection within flash memory of
3 one of the said adaptors.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 enabling a privilege-to-record field for the attendee prior to allowing an audio
3 recording of the meeting by way of the second adaptor.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a third party with a third computer joining the meeting using a third adaptor which
3 is coupled to both a third phone and a third computer.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

2 receiving an audio message from the data center and playing the audio message to
3 one of said parties.

1 14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the audio message includes instructions
2 relating to the meeting.

1 15-28. (Canceled)

1 29. (Currently Amended) An adaptor product configured to bridge a telephone network
2 and a data network, the adaptor product comprising:

3 means for receiving a start meeting command at the adaptor product, the adaptor
4 produced configured to be coupled in between a phone base and a phone handset of the
5 first phone, and also coupled to the first computer;

6 means for causing, in response to the adaptor product receiving the start meeting
7 command, ~~a~~ the first computer coupled to the adaptor product to transmit a start meeting
8 message over the data network to a data center;

9 means for receiving a meeting identification from the data center into the adaptor
10 product; and

11 means for transmitting the meeting identification from the adaptor product over
12 the telephone network to a second adaptor product.

1 30-35. (Canceled)

1 36. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

2 a plurality of interfaces operable to couple the apparatus in between a phone base
3 and a phone handset of ~~to~~ a first phone and to couple the apparatus to a first computer;

4 a user input mechanism operable to receive a start meeting command;

5 a microprocessor operable to cause the first computer coupled to the apparatus to
6 send a start meeting message over a data network to a data center, in response to receipt
7 of the start meeting command at the user input mechanism of the apparatus;

8 a memory operable to store a meeting identification received from the data center;
9 and

10 wherein the microprocessor is further operable to cause the first phone to transmit
11 the meeting identification over a telephone network to a second apparatus, which is
12 coupled to a second phone and a second computer.

1 37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising:

2 a codec operable to encode the meeting identification prior to transmission of the
3 meeting identification over the telephone network to the second apparatus.

1 38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising:

2 a modem operable to convert the meeting identification into a dual tone multiple
3 frequency (DTMF) signal.

1 39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36, further comprising:

2 a flash memory operable to store an audio recording of the meeting.

1 40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the plurality of interfaces
2 include a Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface operable to couple the apparatus to the
3 first computer and registered jack (RJ) interface operable to couple the apparatus to the
4 first phone.

1 41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the plurality of interfaces
2 are further operable to receive an audio message to be played from the data center.

1 42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the plurality of interfaces
2 are further operable to receive an audio message, wherein the audio message includes
3 instructions relating to the meeting.

- 1 43. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein causing includes sending the start meeting
- 2 command from the first adaptor to the first computer.